

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants thank the Examiner for her time and consideration during a telephonic interview held on July 11, 2007 between the Examiner and Applicants' attorney Ashita Doshi. The sole pending rejection in the Office Action was discussed in light of the claims, and agreement was reached. It was agreed that SEQ ID NO: 63 (Pro-Xn₁-(Cys/bXaa)-(Leu/Arg)-Xn₂-Leu-Thr-(Gly/Ser)-Xn₃-Pro) is free of the prior art. The rejection of the pending claims as anticipated by Paznekas et al., 1997 (Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm., 238, pp. 1-6) and Dixon et al., 1997 (Hum. Mol. Gen., 6, No. 5, pp. 727-37) is based upon the sequence search results appended to the Office Action of December 11, 2006, indicating that a sequence PAAATLTTSP, disclosed by the cited reference(s) was 100% identical to SEQ ID NO:63. The Examiner agreed that this is not so. For example, SEQ ID NO:63 comprises Leu-Thr-Ser or Leu-Thr-Gly. Neither of these sequences is present in the sequence PAAATLTTSP disclosed by the cited reference(s).

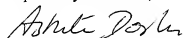
Applicants note, moreover, that SEQ ID NOs: 5 to 8, 10, 12, 13, 21 to 24, 26 to 29, 32, 33, 37 to 40, 46, 48, 54, and 60, also recited in the pending claims, are exemplary species of SEQ ID NO:63. These sequences are therefore not anticipated by the sequence PAAATLTTSP disclosed by the cited reference(s). None of the pending claims, therefore, are anticipated by the cited reference(s).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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